

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 009895  
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

66011

DRAFTED BY: S/S-O LFLEISCHER

APPROVED BY: S/S-O FLEISCHER

-----008998 131857Z /45

O 131827Z JAN 78 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 009895

NODIS

FOR DR BRZEZINSKI

FOL TEL SENT ACTION SECSTATE FROM BONN DTD 13 JAN 1978 QTE

S E C R E T BONN 00674

NODIS-

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IT, GW

SUBJECT: ITALIAN SITUATION - CONSULTATION WITH ALLIES

REF: (A) STATE 8959, (B) BONN 553, (C) ROME 684,  
(D) BONN 629

1. WHEN I SAW STATE SECRETARY VAN WELL BRIEFLY  
JANUARY 12, I GAVE HIM TEXT OF STATEMENT TO BE MADE  
LATER THAT DAY BY DEPARTMENT ON ITALIAN POLITICAL  
SITUATION (AS NOTED REF D, WE ALSO PASSED TEXT TO  
WORKING LEVEL IN FOREIGN OFFICE). VAN WELL EXPRESSED  
APPRECIATION FOR TIMELY NOTIFICATION AND REITERATED  
VIEWS HE HAD GIVEN ME PREVIOUS DAY CONCERNING FRG'S  
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 009895

EVALUATION OF ITALIAN POLITICAL SCENE (REF B).

2. I TALKED AGAIN WITH VAN WELL JANUARY 13 TO PASS ON  
TO HIM GIST OF REF A, NOTING THAT WE WERE ALSO  
APPROACHING FRENCH AND BRITISH AND WOULD BE INTERESTED  
IN ANY VIEWS AS TO WHAT MIGHT BE DONE INDIVIDUALLY  
OR TOGETHER TO PROTECT ALLIANCE INTERESTS IN CONNECTION

WITH ITALIAN DEVELOPMENTS.

3. VAN WELL SAID THERE HAD BEEN POLICY MEETING IN FOREIGN OFFICE MORNING OF JANUARY 13 AT WHICH U.S. STATEMENT ON ITALIAN SITUATION HAD BEEN DISCUSSED AND CONSIDERATION GIVEN TO WHAT MIGHT BE DONE BY FRG. ON LATTER POINT, VAN WELL SAID MEETING HAD CONCLUDED THAT IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO EXPRESS FRG CONCERNS ABOUT ENHANCED COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN ITALIAN GOVERNING PROCESS THROUGH CHANNEL OF FRG POLITICAL PARTIES IN THEIR CONTACTS WITH ITALIAN PARTIES. HE EXPECTED THAT SOME ACTIVITY IN THIS DIRECTION WOULD BE FORTHCOMING IN NEAR FUTURE. VAN WELL INDICATED THAT FRG FELT IT INADVISABLE FOR FRG GOVERNMENT TO MAKE PUBLIC STATEMENT ON ITALIAN SITUATION, AND HE CITED RATIONALE EXPRESSED REF C IN SUPPORT OF THIS VIEW.

4. VAN WELL NOTED THAT PSI LEADER CRAXI WOULD BE VISITING BONN WITHIN WEEK OR TWO ON INVITATION OF SPD. VAN WELL SAID THAT TOP SPD LEADERS, INCLUDING MOST EMPHATICALLY CHANCELLOR HIMSELF, FIRMLY OPPOSE LINE ESPOUSED BY PSI FAVORING GREATER COMMUNIST PARTICIPATION IN ITALIAN GOVERNMENT AND HE EXPECTED THAT CRAXI WOULD BE ADVISED OF THIS POSITION IN NO UNCERTAIN TERMS.

5. IN CONCLUSION, VAN WELL REPEATED WHAT HE HAS TOLD  
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 009895

ME PREVIOUSLY THAT FRG FEELS ANDREOTTI IS COMMITTED TO OPPOSE ANY COMMUNIST PARTICIPATION IN ITALIAN GOVERNMENT. HE SAID HIS PRESENT ESTIMATE IS THAT ANDREOTTI PROBABLY WILL END UP BY FORMING ANOTHER DC MINORITY GOVERNMENT AND THAT THERE MAY BE SOME ARRANGEMENTS MADE FOR BROADER CONSULTATIONS WITH OTHER PARTIES, INCLUDING PCI, ON GOVERNMENT PROGRAM, BUT THERE WILL BE NO FORMAL AGREEMENT TO THIS EFFECT.

6. DEPARTMENT PLEASE REPEAT LONDON, PARIS AND ROME.  
STOESSEL UNQTE CHRISTOPHER

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ALLIANCE, MEETINGS, POLITICAL SITUATION, COMMUNISTS, CAT-A  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 13 jan 1978  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
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**Enclosure:** REPEAT OF BONN 674  
**Executive Order:** GS  
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**Review Markings:**  
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